

**MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL COUNCIL TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

July 14, 1999
MAG Office - Saguaro Room
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Mayor Wayne Brown, Mesa, Chairman	* Mayor Skip Rimsza, Phoenix
* Mayor Cynthia Dunham, Gilbert	Mayor Sam Campana, Scottsdale
Mayor Elaine Scruggs, Glendale	Roc Arnett, State Transportation Board
Mayor Bill Arnold, Goodyear	* Mayor Adolfo Gamez, Tolleson
* Supervisor Jan Brewer, Maricopa County	

*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

OTHERS ATTENDING:

Eric Anderson, MAG	Steven Methvin, Glendale
James M. Bourey, MAG	Karen R. Mills, ADOT
Vice Mayor Johnny Montoya, Surprise	Mayor Thomas Morales, Avondale
Peggy Carpenter, Scottsdale	Amy Rudibaugh, Glendale
Valerie Day, MAG	Tami Ryall, Gilbert
Ken Driggs, RPTA	Dennis Smith, MAG
Chuck Eaton, ADOT	Lisa Takata, Phoenix
Jim Huling, Tempe	Chris Thomas, Glendale
Terry Johnson, MAG	Gordon Tyus, MAG
Bryan Jungwirth, RPTA	Chris Voigt, MAG
Jeff Martin, Mesa	

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wayne Brown at 9:45 a.m. Chairman Brown stated that agenda item #5, Overview of Washington State Planning and Programming Process, would be discussed first until a quorum was met.

5. **Overview of Washington State Planning and Programming Process**

Eric Anderson stated that he and representatives from ADOT and PAG met with representatives from Washington DOT and the Puget Sound Regional Council in the State of Washington last month. He commented that innovative ideas and approaches to the planning and programming process were discussed. Mr. Anderson displayed a slide that reviewed comparisons between the two regions in the areas of population, vehicle miles traveled, and transit services. Mr. Anderson summarized the factors that guide the Washington transportation planning process. He indicated that the Washington Growth Management Act requires that infrastructure be provided concurrently with development, inclusion of a transportation element for local comprehensive plans, and certification of the transportation element by the Puget Sound Regional Council. Mr. Anderson stated that the 20-year Washington Long Range

Transportation Plan identifies the need to maintain current systems, improve safety, provide mobility, and keep the economy moving. Mr. Anderson stated that Washington's 20-year plan forms the basis for a six-year plan, whereas the MAG region uses a five-year plan. Highway improvement projects are categorized into four major objectives: mobility, safety, economic initiatives, and environmental retrofit. Each major objective has one or more action strategies to achieve the objective. He summarized the planning steps used in Washington to prioritize projects. He stated that the Washington Transportation Plan needs total \$41 billion, with revenue projections of \$18.3 billion. He commented that the limited resources require funding priorities be set and summarized the formula used for prioritization. The projects for inclusion in the plan are determined by an extensive public outreach process. Mr. Anderson stated that maintenance, traffic operations, preservation and most of the safety projects are fully funded. Mr. Anderson stated that the existing highway system and available revenues are maximized by utilizing long range mobility strategies such as HOV, park and ride, and transit. Highway system efficiency is increased by utilizing ITS, incident response, and signal synchronization that do not require costly expansion. Chairman Brown thanked Mr. Anderson for his report and asked if there were any questions.

Mayor Arnold asked if Washington is utilizing rail systems for transportation. Mr. Anderson replied that they are active in rail and are looking at multi-modal connections. Mayor Campana asked if Washington is an example for our region. Mr. Anderson replied that our region is approaching the planning and funding from a regional perspective, rather than Washington's planning at a state level. Mr. Arnett requested a copy of Mr. Anderson's presentation. He noted that Harry Reed from ADOT was an attendee in Washington and asked Mr. Anderson for an update on the cooperative planning process. Mr. Anderson replied that the cooperative process is moving forward. He noted that the concepts from Casa Grande were reinforced by what was learned in Washington. Mr. Bourey noted that three positive and constructive meetings of the RAAC Committee have been held. He commented that the RAAC process could result in an equitable distribution of resources.

2. Approval of May 12, 1999 Meeting Minutes

Chairman Brown asked for a motion to approve the minutes since there was a quorum present.

Roc Arnett moved, Mayor Bill Arnold seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the May 12, 1999 meeting.

3. Transportation Funding Guidelines

Terry Johnson stated that the Regional Council approved guidelines for the programming of regional transportation projects in December 1998. Mr. Johnson displayed a timeline to develop the 2001-2005 Transportation Program, which is now underway. He stated that revisions to the transportation funding guidelines, received through the public outreach process, were developed. Mr. Johnson displayed slides summarizing the proposed updated guidelines. He stated that additional guidelines received through the outreach process could include improving the existing freeway system to reduce congestion by adding lanes and enhancing interchanges; supporting alternative fueled vehicles; supporting the Maricopa County brokerage system to meet the transportation needs of welfare recipients; and adding a new category supporting transportation safety by supporting a freeway service patrol program to respond to emergency conditions along freeways and supporting education campaigns to improve safety in road work areas. On June 22, 1999, the MAG Transportation Review Committee (TRC) reviewed the

updated guidelines, but did not take action, due to the previous guidelines being approved within the last six months. The consensus of the TRC was that the existing guidelines should be reviewed from a more comprehensive perspective to better focus the application of MAG federal funds and that this comprehensive review and update could not be completed by the end of July for use in the upcoming program cycle. He indicated that there is urgency to move forward to ensure the guidelines are in place at the beginning of the transportation planning process. Mr. Johnson stated that the agenda item would be considered at the Management Committee meeting later in the day. Chairman Brown thanked Mr. Johnson for his report and asked for discussion.

Mayor Scruggs stated that the Management Committee would be addressing this issue at their meeting. The Subcommittee did not take action on this agenda item.

4. Report on Presentation to the Governor's Transportation Vision 21 Task Force on Regional Transportation Funding Needs

Mr. Bourey stated that on July 8, MAG staff gave a presentation to the Governor's Transportation Vision 21 Task Force, Definition of Needs, Resources and Revenue Committee. This presentation provided an overview of the MAG Long Range Transportation Plan and potential funding needs and included information on projections, planning process, technical planning analyses, overview of adopted plans, a vision of transportation needs beyond the plan and funding needs. The presentation focused on funding needs to complete the plan and additional funding needs beyond the plan. Mr. Bourey noted that a packet of the presentation materials is available upon request. Mr. Bourey stated that funding for the 20-year plan must be fiscally restrained. Mr. Bourey displayed a bar chart that showed current available long range plan funding and the funding deficit. He indicated that \$9.4 billion is needed for necessary projects and commented that the number could easily double if projects beyond the immediate need were included. Mr. Bourey indicated that a meeting of the full Task Force and hosted by MAG is being planned. He indicated that the Governor's office and the Task Force co-chairs are very interested in setting up this meeting. Mr. Bourey stated that attendance by the Regional Council is desired. He indicated that the meeting would most likely be a morning meeting extending through lunch.

Mayor Scruggs commented on the Vehicle License Tax revenue distribution. Chairman Brown stated that cities must be aware of the meetings to ensure their attendance and participation. Chairman Brown stated that the viewpoint of the MAG region needs to be presented in writing to the Task Force. Mayor Scruggs suggested that the Task Force's charge be obtained. She noted that reports addressing each cities' viewpoints be submitted. Mayor Scruggs stated that as an organization, we need to pay close attention to funding.

Roc Arnett stated that he attended the July 13, 1999 Task Force meeting in Chandler. Mr. Arnett indicated that the Task Force is interested in receiving input. He noted that their charge is to create a vision for 20 years into the future and its needs, governance, and funding. Mr. Arnett stated that the Transportation Board is anticipating that the Task Force report will solve problems. Mayor Campana asked if a list of meeting dates could be supplied to the mayors. Mr. Bourey stated that a major meeting is scheduled for August 12, 1999 in Phoenix. A meeting in the west valley is to be announced.

6. CANAMEX Corridor Update

Mr. Bourey stated that the CANAMEX corridor joint study is an important effort for regional input. He noted that a route statewide has been identified, but the route through our region has not yet been determined. Mr. Bourey stated that MAG and ADOT are starting the process to determine the route through our region.

Mr. Bourey introduced Karen Mills, ADOT Project Manager, who gave a presentation on the proposed MAG/ADOT joint study. Ms. Mills stated that the CANAMEX Corridor is designated by federal law to run from Nogales, Arizona, to the Canadian Border. Ms. Mills showed a map of the CANAMEX corridor from Alberta, Canada to Nogales, Mexico. She summarized federal regulations and project funding resources made available by TEA-21 funding. Ms. Mills stated that, although funding is limited, Arizona has received \$58 million in federal funds since the passage of TEA-21. Ms. Mills summarized the corridor study process. She stated that Arizona, Nevada, Utah, Montana, and possibly Idaho would participate in a multi-state CANAMEX corridor study. Ms. Mills stated that an RFP has been issued for a project manager to assist ADOT on the CANAMEX project. She estimated the timeline for the study would be approximately 18-24 months and noted that the joint corridor study would coordinate with the Governor's Vision 21 Task Force. Ms. Mills commented that Mike Dawson at the County had previously done studies of various CANAMEX route alternatives. Chairman Brown thanked Mr. Bourey and Ms. Mills for their reports and asked if there were any questions.

Mayor Arnold asked the timeline of the MAG Committee process on this item. Mr. Bourey replied that the Management Committee would consider the item at their meeting later in the day. Mayor Arnold asked if a MAG working committee would be formed. Mr. Bourey replied that there would be meetings involving the Mayors and other city representatives.

Mayor Scruggs expressed appreciation to be involved in the study process. She indicated that CANAMEX routes have been discussed by the West Valley. Mayor Scruggs indicated that the West Valley's preferred CANAMEX route is the 303. Mr. Arnett suggested an alternate route to the 303. He indicated the route from I-10 to I-8 heading north on SR 85 west to Sun Valley Parkway northwest to the Vulture Mine connect, then north and west to Wickenburg on SR 93. Mr. Arnett indicated that this route will take congestion out of the Valley and that the trucking industry is supportive of this route. Mayor Scruggs asked the role of the trucking industry in determining a route. Ms. Mills replied that input from the trucking industry is needed for a successful study.

Mayor Morales commented that the CANAMEX corridor is an important effort. He stated that if all are not at the table, our requests will not be heard. He urged participation of the Indian tribes. Mayor Morales asked if rail would be considered in the corridor study. Ms. Mills replied that a multi-modal corridor is being considered.

Mayor Scruggs moved, Mayor Campana seconded, and it was unanimously carried to recommend approving a joint study with ADOT on the CANAMEX corridor.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Chairman

Secretary